

## 2.1 Bivouac Pad and Access Trail, Yukon Training Area

USAG-AK has proposed to construct a hardened bivouac pad and to upgrade an associated access trail in the Yukon Training Area (YTA), Fort Wainwright (Figure 2). The proposed bivouac area would be hardened to approximately 500 square feet in size. An existing but inadequate access trail leading to the bivouac site would also be upgraded. The project area is located off of Manchu Road, in the vicinity of Manchu Lake, in the western portion of the Yukon Training Area (map quadrangle FAI C-1, T. 2 S., R. 4 E., Sec. 31). The purpose of this action is to support troop-training activities within the YTA.

### ***Survey and Field Methods***

In the summer of 2002 the proposed project area for the bivouac hardening and access trail improvement project was investigated by an archaeological survey crew, employed by the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML, Colorado State University). This cultural resources survey was part of a survey for a larger range development project. All of the area shown in Figure 2 was archaeologically surveyed in the summer of 2002 (Hedman et al. 2003).

Parallel pedestrian transects spaced at 10-20 meters were walked in all areas that were not deemed too wet or too steep ( $>40^\circ$ ) to contain cultural material. Systematic sub-surface testing was undertaken in areas determined to be high probability (e.g., lake margins, ridges, benches adjacent to steeper slopes) during initial review of the proposed project area, and as determined by the supervising archaeologist and field crew leader based on survey findings. Shovel tests were approximately 40cm x 40cm, and were screened through ¼" hardware cloth.

### ***Cultural Resources***

There is one known site in the vicinity of the proposed project. This site has been determined to be outside of the project area.

#### FAI-00157

Latitude:

Longitude: (NAD 27)

Determination: Not evaluated

This site consists of one chert flake and a segment of an obsidian microblade. The artifacts were found on the surface of a clearing in 1978. During survey activities in 2002, this site was re-located based on map coordinates and the presence of previously excavated test units. The site area was shovel tested extensively in 2002, however no additional cultural material was located. UTM coordinates for the site are Zone 6, (WGS84). This site was likely disturbed by previous clearing activities and all remaining cultural material collected in 1978. This site is located outside of the project area and no additional work is recommended.

### ***Results***

Pedestrian survey and sub-surface testing of the proposed project area did not identify any cultural resources. All other previously recorded archaeological sites or historic properties in the Yukon Training Area fall outside of the proposed project area. No historic properties will be affected by the proposed project.

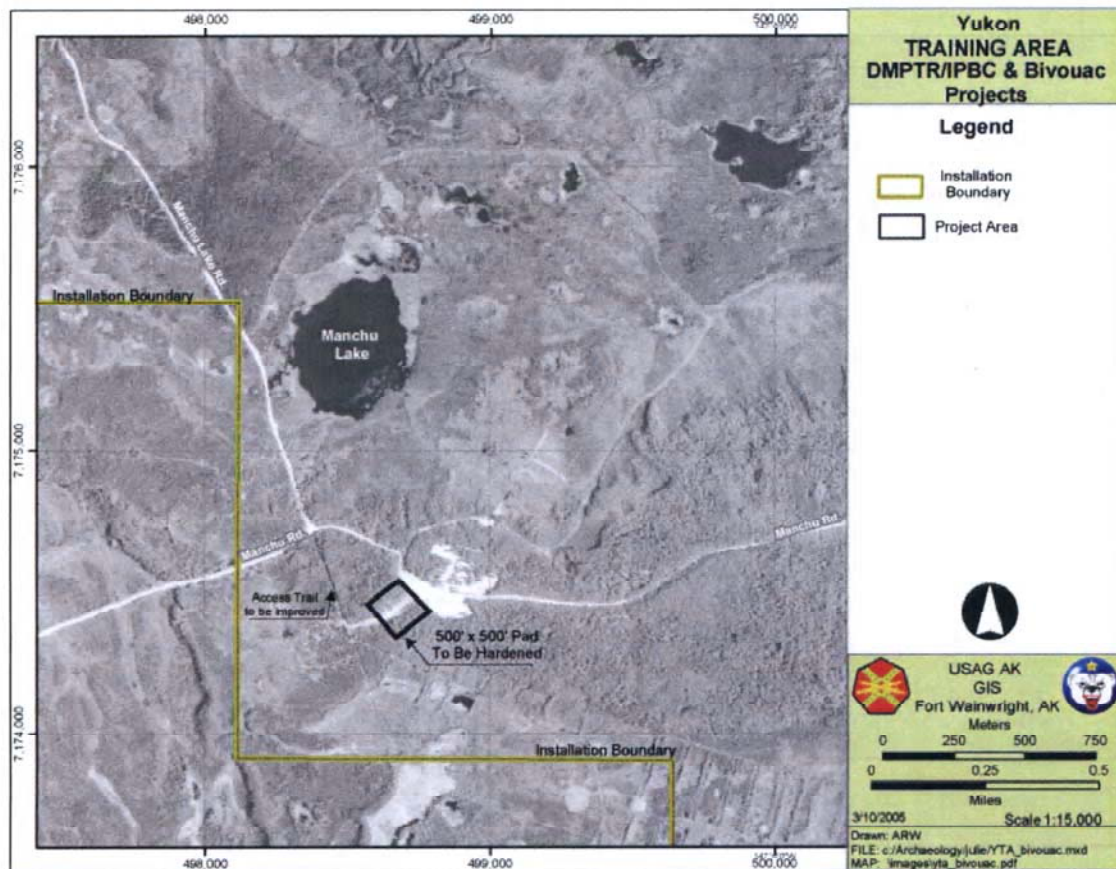


Figure 2. Bivouac area and access trail project area